October 2008

Executive Committee:
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Office Hours:
MWF: 8:30 AM–10:30 AM
TR: 9:00 AM–2:00 PM
Office Administrator:
Sara Markham

President’s Message
Pam Rewey

Thanks to you, we have a great start to the League year. We had a good beginning in September, having fun meeting old and new friends and discussing issues at our unit meetings.

Excitement is mounting for our General Meeting on October 1. Shahla M. Werner, PhD, will give a talk and PowerPoint presentation entitled “Next Steps: How Do We Protect the Great Lakes Now That the Compact Has Passed?” There are many issues concerning water that we need to discuss. Supply and demand issues take us beyond the Compact to our national and even global water supply.

Many League members are working on other topics this year. From health care for veterans to four-year-old kindergarten and air quality, there is something to interest everyone.

The November election looms large for the League. We’ve had many requests to register voters. You have responded. If there is any way that you can do more to help us respond to these requests, please call Priscilla Thain, Voter Services Chair, at 233-5578. She can put you in touch with other members who are in charge of various registration sites.

I know you won’t forget to vote, but don’t hesitate to help others to register and to vote…and remind them to vote on November 4.

General Meeting
Wednesday, October 1, 2008
7:00 PM

Next Steps: Protecting the Great Lakes Now That the Compact Has Passed

Shahla M. Werner, Ph.D., Director, John Muir Chapter of the Sierra Club

The Capitol Lakes Grand Hall
333 West Main Street in Downtown Madison
(Free parking in the ramp across the street)
August Board Highlights

Janet Kane, kanefam@tds.net, 831-1845

At its August meeting, your Board:

• Reviewed the monthly financial reports. League members are reminded that any expenses to be incurred must be approved by the Board in advance;
• Discussed purchasing a plaque to honor major donors;
• Learned the status of Voter Services efforts and voted to buy 100 copies of a brochure with information on voting in Wisconsin;
• Planned for the September General Meeting and Open House, including preparation of reference materials and refreshments;
• Discussed strategies for publicizing League events and Candidates’ Answers, and promoting membership;
• Discussed budgeting for trips to state and national League conventions.

Many Thanks to Fred Wade

The September Open House and General Meeting were a great success, with about 50 people in attendance. Thanks to the many Board members who provided refreshments and display materials, Teague Harvey, who created wonderful membership materials, Gloria Meyer, who publicized the event, and Sara Markham, who prepared the reference materials. Particular thanks to Fred Wade, who gave us a fascinating historical perspective on the origins of lawmaking authority in English law, the U.S. Constitution, and various state constitutions, and how that authority has been usurped by Wisconsin Governors using the partial veto to create laws that our elected representatives did not approve.

Help Us Increase Attendance

Gloria Meyer, gkmeyer68@gmail.com, 288-8160

You can help us increase attendance at our general meetings. If you live close to downtown and could place a poster on a message board in your building, or if your building has a newsletter or other means of publicizing meetings, please let me know. Thanks!

In Memoriam

Marie Reger died in June. Marie was an active member of the Eastside Daytime discussion unit and served the Dane County League in many capacities, including helping with membership, finance campaigns, mailing crews, and proofreading teams. Her good humor and kind nature are fondly remembered.

Moderating Forums

Priscilla Thain, priscillathain@gmail.com, 233-5578

Pam Rewey will moderate a forum for the candidates for Assembly District 47 on October 2 from 10 AM–12 Noon at the Columbus Senior Center in Columbus. It will be sponsored by the Wisconsin Alliance for Retired Americans and the Coalition of Wisconsin Aging Groups. To date, this is the only request we have had to moderate a forum.

Making Democracy Work Summit

Join other Wisconsin League members on October 3-4 in Stevens Point for the Making Democracy Work Summit, made possible through a grant from The Joyce Foundation. This year’s summit kicks off with a fun and thought-provoking event on Friday evening, featuring My Vote Performs. Saturday’s program of exciting local and national speakers includes LWVUS President Mary Wilson. See the full agenda and register for the event at http://www.lwvwi.org/cms/ Register by Sept. 22 to avoid a late fee. No reservations will be accepted after Sept. 28.

Fall Highway Cleanup

Maureen Kind, dmkind@sbcglobal.net, 274-6754

Please contact me if you can assist with the fall cleaning along “our” section of Highway 14, just west of Middleton, on Saturday, October 18. We will gather at Wayside Road at 9:00 AM. Wear sturdy shoes and gloves; everything else (including snacks) will be provided. Bring a friend!
Voter Services News
Priscilla Thain, priscillathain@gmail.com, 233-5578
The Madison Common Council declared September 10 to October 10, 2008, voter registration month and the League has been almost overwhelmed with requests to register voters. In addition to registering at our regular sites at the Capitol Square (Myrna McNatt, 831-5759), Sheboygan Ave. (Priscilla Thain), and Monona Farmers’ Markets (Mary Bean, 222-5783), Hilldale Shopping Center, and the Naturalization Ceremony (Sue Hoffenberg, 255-5683), a number of our hard-working members have initiated registration efforts at St. Vincent DePaul Food Pantry (Carol Kiemel, 286-1446), First United Methodist Church Food Pantry (Mary Bean), Harambee Medical Center (Sue Hoffenberg), and in Middleton (Rose Sime, 831-9297).

In response to special requests, we are registering voters on one or two days at:
- Madison Children’s Museum
- Salvation Army Women’s Shelter
- Sebring Assisted Care Center
- State Historical Society

We especially need two people at the Salvation Army Women’s Shelter on Tuesday, Oct. 14, from 6–8 PM. We are also combining the Sheboygan Avenue Farmers’ Market (9–10:30 AM on Saturdays) with the Hilldale Shopping Center site (11 AM–1 PM). Call Priscilla Thain to sign up for these two sites.

Membership Update
Teague Harvey, tbharvey@wisc.edu, 770-0660
Since July 1, 2008, six new members have joined LWVDC; we welcome Mira Bakken, Susan Bohlman, Michael Kane, Penny Mory, Jody Patrick, and Thomas Vandervest! Seven people have requested membership information recently; they will receive the LWVDC Bulletin for three months, and we encourage them to join!

As always, thank you to those who have continued their support of LWVDC. At the end of August about 70% of our locally recruited annually renewing members had renewed for the current fiscal year. About 50 of last year’s members have not yet renewed. If you find a blue dot on your mailing label, please remember to submit your membership dues by November 14, 2008, so that your name can appear in the Membership Directory issued in December. Contact the LWVDC office or use the membership form below.

Scholarships for a one-year LWVDC membership are still available. Contact the League office or Carol Kiemel, 286-1446, ckiemel@sbcglobal.net, to obtain more information, a copy of A Process for Awarding An Eleanor Barschall LWVDC Scholarship Membership, and the Membership Form for you to complete with the new member.

Please, I want to be a part of the League of Women Voters of Dane County, Inc.

[Please submit dues for the fiscal year July 1, 2008 – June 30, 2009 by November 14 to be included in the Member Directory.]

Name: _______________________________________
Address: ______________________________________
City: __________ State: __ Zip: __________
Phone: ________ Year Joined LWV: __________
E-Mail: ____________________________

Membership: [Check your selection]
☐ Member ______ $70
☐ Second Member ______ $60
☐ Special Rate Member ______ $35
☐ of limited income or a student

Member Contribution: [Check your selection]
☐ $1,000 – 500 ☐ $499 – 200 ☐ $199 – 100
☐ $99 – 50 ☐ other ______

Total: ______

The League of Women Voters of Dane County, Inc.
2712 Marshall Court, Suite 2, Madison, WI 53705-2282

“A nonpartisan citizen education and advocacy organization” ☺
October 2008 Unit Locations

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2008**

**Northeastside, 3:30 PM**
Lakeview Public Library
2845 N. Sherman Ave.
*Unit Leaders:*
Dorothy Wheeler, 244-4711; dorothywheeler@charter.net
Mary Bean, 222-5783; marybean@charter.net

**Lakeview Public Library**

**Downtown Dinner, 5:30 PM**
Paisan’s
131 W. Wilson St.
*Unit Leaders:*
Sally Phelps, 251-4834; phelpssa@charter.net
Priscilla Thain, 233-5578; priscillathain@gmail.com

**MONDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2008**

**Middleton, 7 PM**
Myrna McNatt
7012 Park Shores Court, 831-5759
*Unit Leader: Diane de Vos, 836-0070, djdevos@chorus.net*

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2008**

**Tuesday Afternoon, 12:45 PM**
Oakwood 1st floor Community Room
6225 Mineral Point Rd.
Park on grounds or in P1 Heritage Oaks ramp
*Unit Leader: Ann Nelson, 230-3128*

**Tuesday Evening West, 7:30 PM**
309 Yosemite Trail
*Unit Leader: Cristel Gjerde, 833-7638; crisgjerde@charter.net*

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**Calendar of Upcoming Events**

**October 1** – General Meeting, *Next Steps: Protecting the Great Lakes Now That the Compact Has Passed*

**October 2** – Assembly District 47 candidate forum

**October 3–4** – Making Democracy Work Summit

**October 10** – *Bulletin* deadline

**October 13** – LWVDC Board Meeting

**October 14** – Fall Highway Cleanup

**November 4** – Election Day

**November 5** – General Meeting (Health care)

**November 10** – *Bulletin* deadline

**November 10** – LWVDC Board Meeting

**November 14** – Deadline to renew and be in 2008–2009 Membership Directory

**January** – Lively Issues Luncheon (Predatory lending)

**January 10** – *Bulletin* deadline

**January 12** – LWVDC Board Meeting

**February 4** – General Meeting (The popular vote)

**February 9** – LWVDC Board Meeting

**February 10** – *Bulletin* deadline

**March 4** – General Meeting (Four-year-old kindergarten)***

**March 9** – LWVDC Board Meeting

**March 10** – *Bulletin* deadline

**April 1** – General Meeting (Air quality in Dane County)***

**April 13** – LWVDC Board Meeting

**May 6** – LWVDC Annual Meeting

***Note that the topics for the March and April meetings have been swapped.

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A frequently asked question is, “What will be on my ballot?”

Ballots for individual districts can be viewed at [http://vpa.wi.gov](http://vpa.wi.gov)

Check the status of your voter registration at this site as well.

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“A nonpartisan citizen education and advocacy organization” 😊